

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 SY-05 FBIE-00 JUSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00 COME-00 ACDA-07 /078 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 996
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 3994

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, CSCE, UN, YO, US
SUBJECT: TERRORIST ATTACK ON YUGOSLAV MISSION TO UN

1. DEPUTY FONMIN MOJSOV CALLED ME IN AT 11:30 P.M. TO REGISTER "STRONGEST POSSIBLE PROTEST" ON PART OF GOY OVER TERRORIST ATTACK IN NEW YORK. HE DESCRIBED FACTS OF INCIDENT, INCLUDING WOUNDING OF YUGOSLAV MISSION EMPLOYEE, CLAIMED THAT TERRORISTS HAD SOUGHT TO BLACKMAIL BOTH UN SECRETARY GENERAL AND YUGOSLAV MISSION, AND HAD SURRENDERED TO NYC POLICE ONLY AFTER RESOLUTE REFUSAL OF YUGOSLAV MISSION AND UN SECGEN TO COMPLY WITH THEIR DEMANDS. HE CLAIMED THAT ONE MEMBER OF BAND, WHICH HE CONSISTENTLY DESCRIBED AS FASCIST, A CERTAIN BOZANIC HAD SOUGHT UNSUCCESSFULLY TWO YEARS AGO TO DO EXACTLY WHAT HE DID SUCCESSFULLY TODAY. HE SAID THAT INCIDENT HAD BEEN PLANNED TO DISRUPT OPENING OF CSCE AND TO INTERFERE WITH THE LOFTY AIMS IT SOUGHT TO ACHIEVE. IT ALSO CLEARLY INTENDED TO HARM US-YUGOSLAV BILATERAL RELATIONS WHICH WERE DEVELOPING SO FAVORABLY AFTER MONDALE VISIT. ATTACK HAD OBVIOUSLY BEEN CAREFULLY PLANNED; IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT WITHOUT SUPPORT FROM "CERTAIN FORCES" IN US WHICH OPPOSED

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BOTH CSCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS.

2. I EXPRESSED MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY FOR YUGOSLAV VICTIM OF ATTACK AND DEEPEST REGRET OVER INCIDENT. I SAID MY GOVERNMENT STRONGLY AND UNRESERVEDLY CONDEMS ALL SUCH TERRORIST ATTACKS WHEREVER THEY OCCUR. I REMINDED HIM OF CONVICTION OF TWA HIJACKERS, AND SAID THAT

WHILE CRIMINALS WHO PERPETRATED TODAY'S ACT WOULD HAVE FULL PROTECTION AFFORDED DEFENDANTS IN AMERICAN SYSTEM OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, I HAD NO DOUBT THAT THEIR CRIME WOULD BE APPROPRIATELY PUNISHED. I SAID THAT I ASSUMED HIS REFERENCE TO "CERTAIN FORCES" REFERRED TO THE IMMEDIATE SUPPORTERS OF THE TERRORISTS; AT EVERY LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES THERE WAS NOT THE SLIGHTEST SUPPORT FOR SUCH CRIMINALS OR THE POLITICAL GOALS THEY SOUGHT TO ACHIEVE THROUGH TERRORISM.

3. MOJSOV REVIEWED THE LONG HISTORY OF UNPUNISHED ATTACKS ON YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY IN THE U.S. HE STATED THAT GOY HAD REPEATEDLY WARNED USG THAT TERRORIST GROUPS WERE ACTIVE IN U.S., CITING IN THIS CONNECTION AIDE-MEMOIRE GIVEN SECRETARY KISSINGER DURING HIS VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA. HE STATED AGAIN THAT GOY PROTESTING INCIDENT IN STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS AND ASKED THAT GOY BE NOTIFIED ASAP OF RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS BY COMPETENT U.S. AUTHORITIES.

4. I REMINDED MOJSOV OF DIFFICULTIES USG HAD IN IDENTIFYING, LET ALONE PUNISHING TERRORISTS OF EVERY STRIKE IN U.S. I REITERATED THAT USG TOTALLY AND WITHOUT RESERVE CONDEMNED THE USE OF TERROR AS A POLITICAL WEAPON, WHATEVER CAUSE IT SOUGHT TO SERVE. I PROMISED CONVEY HIS PROTEST IMMEDIATELY TO MY GOVERNMENT.

5. COMMENT: ANY RPT ANY STATEMENT BY USG SPOKESMAN AS WELL
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AS ANY OFF-THE-RECORD REMARKS QUOTED BY PRESS WILL BE READ BY GOY IN WORST POSSIBLE LIGHT. THEY WILL BELIEVE U.S. INVOLVED NO MATTER WHAT WE NOW DO OR SAY. WE SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE THEIR PARANOIA. AT SAME TIME WE CAN TRY TO LIMIT DAMAGE TO OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, DEFLECTION OF CSCE AND GAIN FOR SOVIETS BY FLATLY CONDEMNING THESE TERRORISTS AND THEIR SEPARATIST POLITICAL AIMS. ANY INDICATION OF UNDERSTANDING FOR ANY OF THEIR VIEWS NO MATTER HOW INDIRECT WOULD BE VERY BADLY RECEIVED BY GOY. RECOMMEND FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "THE USG DEEPLY REGRETS THIS INCIDENT AND THE SUFFERING IT HAS CAUSED EMPLOYEES OF THE YUGOSLAV MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS. WE CONDEMN THIS AND ALL OTHER ACTS OF TERRORISM, AND SPECIFICALLY CONDEMN THE SEPARATIST GOALS INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THE UNITED STATES VIGOROUSLY SUPPORTS THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND UNITY OF YUGOSLAVIA."

6. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED ON CURRENT BASIS OF DEVELOPMENTS THIS CASE. WE PARTICULARLY WISH TO BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY SHOULD YUGOSLAV GUARD DIE.

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 15-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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